



## Cuso International – Volunteer Placements

### Environmental Strategy Advisor

Location: La Paz, Bolivia

Partner name: Cuso International Bolivia

Length of placement (months): 6

Start date: Aug - Oct 2017 (flexible)

Funding Eligibility requirements: Open to Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents only

Language Requirements: Spanish Reading: Level 4, Writing: Level 4, Speaking: Level 4

### The Volunteer's Role

Cuso International in Bolivia is looking for a volunteer like you to support us in become environmentally conscious and friendly.

In Bolivia, we work in two areas: Inclusive Sustainable Economic growth (ISEG) and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI). However, Cuso International is aware that some themes are cross-cutting no matter the focus area, such as environmental issues.

This is where your expertise comes in! There are always opportunities to improve our positive impact on the environment and we find it important that our partners also have a mentality of environmentally-friendly initiatives and awareness. In your role, you'll support our program office in Bolivia and its partners by making environmental audits of our partners, provide materials and tools to increase their awareness of environmental issues and create an overall sustainable environmental strategy.

#### **As a volunteer, you will:**

- Conduct an environmental audit on Cuso International Bolivia and its partner organizations.
- Investigate key actors within our partners and gather information on current environmental practices.
- Develop an environmental strategy draft for each organization.
- Train program office staff, partners, and beneficiaries in the implementation of the strategies, in the use of good environmental practices and tools.
- Support the program office in implementing immediate environmental tools and practices.

#### **Essential Academic Qualifications:**

- University degree in Environmental Sciences or other relevant areas

#### **Essential Professional Background:**

- Solid experience and knowledge on environmental audits and on mitigation planning in organizational level, for example in NGOs and universities.

### About Our Partner: Cuso International Bolivia

Cuso International Bolivia has been operating for over 40 years with local partners supporting development through the efforts of professional volunteers from Canada and Latin America. During the 2015-2019 period, Cuso International Bolivia is working under the Volunteer Opportunities for International Cooperation and Empowerment (VOICE) Project. Within this project, Cuso International Bolivia is focusing on two project areas: 1) Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth (ISEG) and 2) Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI).

### Terms and Conditions

Cuso International terms and conditions allow you to lead a modest and healthy lifestyle while being effective in your placement. This support package will cover basic living expenses for one volunteer and is not intended to cover home-based expenses (ex. loans, support payments, etc. (ex. imported items and international personal travel)).

### **Support Package**

- Modest living allowance (varies depending country)
- Accommodation while overseas
- Return airfare and visa/permit costs
- Cost of required vaccinations, antimalarial medication and health insurance
- Comprehensive training and support program.
- Travel and accommodation for reintegration debriefing weekend
- Modest support for accompanying partners/dependents going on placement with you for 12+ months
- Access to Employee Assistance Program while overseas and upon return
- Cuso International assessment day (Candidates must cover the first \$200 of the most cost-effective travel expenses and all accommodation costs).
- Travel and accommodation for the five-day pre-departure training course and in-country training orientation

### **Fundraising**

We ask each volunteer, regardless of placement length, to raise \$2,000. All volunteers receive support from Cuso International to help achieve the goal through fundraising. If the volunteer chooses not to fundraise or is unable to achieve the fundraising goal, he/she can make a one-time donation or become a monthly donor to support our work.

### **E-volunteering**

Depending on the nature of the placement volunteers are encouraged to provide e-volunteering support to the local partner or Cuso International before or after the field placement.

## **Residency and Citizenship**

In order to become a volunteer with Cuso International, you must be living in Canada for the time between your application date and the date you go overseas. Short vacations during this time are feasible. We may require your passport and would need to be aware of any travel plans you may have during this time. We must be able to contact you, and you must be able to contact us easily and promptly throughout the process. You will also require unrestricted access to Canada during the pre-departure process for assessment and training.

Leaving your country of residence can have significant effects on your citizenship status in that country. It is your responsibility to research the consequences of traveling to Canada during the pre-departure process and of going overseas for a long-term placement with the immigration authority where you live.